

Managing Embalming Practices

To Meet the Needs of COVID-19

What is embalming?

- Embalming is part of our professional services which is optional.
- Embalming is the process of introducing a disinfectant and preservative solution into the internal environment of the body when a person passes away.
- Embalming delays the changes that occur naturally after death, it can make the deceased look more peaceful and in some instances, can remove the visible effects of the cause of death.
- Embalming is carried out for three purposes; Preservation, Presentation & Sanitation.

Official Guidance

- AAPT (Association of Anatomical Pathology Technology), Royal College of Pathologists, BIE (British Institute of Embalmers), NAFD (National Association of Funeral Directors), HSE (Health & Safety Executive) & PHA (Public Health Agency; Northern Ireland, Health Protection Scotland & Public Health England)
- **BODY BAGS ARE NOT REQUIRED***
- **EMBALMING IS PERMITTED***
- **VIEWING IS PERMITTED***
- * With appropriate measure to deal with aerosol-generating procedures

Challenges & Discrepancies

- Varying interpretations of the guidelines across mortuaries & funeral homes
- Difficulties procuring the correct PPE, substandard PPE & counterfeit testing certificates
- Advice on N95 masks changing
- Increased cost implications to the business
- Fit for purpose
- Funeral home facilities & capacities

Exploring Solutions

- Procurement and H&S full understanding of regulation & legislation (PPE)
- Implementation of SSOW
- 'Pandemic' stock hold of PPE
- Facilities serviced & updated
- Increased capacity
- Embalming

Thank You

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